Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	
)
Petition for Waiver of the)
FCC Form 471 Filing Deadline)
by the)
)
PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL) CC Docket No. 02-06
DISTRICT, BEN 122871)
)
Schools and Libraries Universal Service)
Support Mechanism)

Petition for Waiver of FCC Form 471 Filing Deadline for Funding Year 2018 RE: FCC Form 471 # 181041135

April 5, 2018

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Kindly accept this petition for waiver of the FCC Form 471 filing deadline for Funding Year 2018 submitted on behalf of the Paterson Public School District, BEN 122871 (hereinafter referred to as "Petitioner").

I. Introduction & Summary

Petitioner is a K-12 public school district in Passaic County, New Jersey. Its principal office located at 90 Delaware Avenue, Paterson, NJ 07503. Petitioner's school district consists of 47 schools and serves approximately 24,751 pupils. It is presently within the 85% discount band for Category Two equipment and services. Historically, Petitioner has participated in the E-rate Program, leveraging available discounts to help defray expenses for eligible telecommunications services in order to better serve its pupil population.

Petitioner certified and submitted FCC Form 471# 181041135 on April 5, 2018, which was within 14 days of the Funding Year 2018 filing deadline. The delay stemmed from inclement weather and resultant power outages, which caused the Petitioner's email server to go offline. This delayed the receipt of bids, consequently, forced the Petitioner to postpone the bid evaluation process until it could ensure that all bids submitted by vendors had been reviewed thoroughly in light of Petitioner's needs. Once Petitioner completed its bid evaluation, it notified its E-rate consultant of the awards. The undersigned then drafted and completed the Form 471, linked the necessary contracts to the appropriate Funding Request Numbers, and certified FCC Form 471# 181041135 on April 5, 2018.

II. Request

In light of the above circumstances, Petitioner respectfully petitions the Commission to waive the Funding Year 2018 FCC Form 471 filing deadline to allow its Out-of-Window submission of Funding Year 2018 FCC Form 471# 181041135. The Commission has a longstanding practice of finding good cause to grant such waivers when the FCC Form 471 is filed within 14 days of the filing deadline, it serves the public interest, and there is no evidence of waste, fraud and abuse.¹ All of these criteria are met in the instant matter.

If you have any questions in regard to this submission, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

VINCENT LaFORGIA, PRESIDENT E-RATE CONSULTING, INC. vince@erateconsulting.com

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¹ See, e.g., Requests for Waiver and Review of Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by Allen Shivers Library et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order and Order on Reconsideration, DA 14-1256, paras. 1, 3 & 4 (August 28, 2014) (finding special circumstances exist to justify granting waiver requests where, for example, petitioners filed their FCC Forms 471 within 14 days after the FCC Form 471 filing window deadline); Requests for Waiver and Review of Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by Boston Renaissance School et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order and Order on Reconsideration, DA 14-250, paras. 1, 3 & 4 (February 24, 2014) (finding special circumstances existed to justify granting waiver requests "because each of those petitioners filed its applications within 14 days of the close of the filing window."); Requests for Waiver and Review of Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by A.C.E. Charter High School et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, DA 12-2057, paras. 2, 4 & 5 (December 28, 2012) (same); Requests for Review of the Decisions of the Universal Service Administrator by Academy of Math and Science, et al., Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Order, 25 FCC Rcd 9256, 9259-60, paras. 8 & 9 (2010) (same).